

THE ROMULUS ROMAN

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News you can use

New number for county abuse cases

Wayne County now offers a dedicated "1-800" number for suspected cases of child abuse or neglect.

County residents can call 1 (800) 716-2234 to report suspicion of abuse or neglect, said Jerome Rutland, director of Wayne County Department of Human Services.

Rutland said a rise in the number of child abuse complaints prompted the special number, which aims to speed up the reporting process.

"We have seen an increase," said Rutland, who added that the public, along with mandated reporters, are more aware of abuse situations.

When a person calls the number, they speak to a worker in the Information and Referral Unit, who asks a series of questions to determine the validity of the complaint. If the unit determines the call to be valid, it is referred to a district office for investigation.

There are certain cases in which the number should not be used, however.

"It's not a general information number," said Rutland. Emergencies should always be directed to 911, he said. Matters related to foster care, child placement, adoptions or assistance should be directed to the regular contact persons for those programs.

Rutland said the number comes as a new phone system is being installed, which will further help his department to process calls more efficiently.

For more information, visit <http://www.michigan.gov>.

Test scores show steady gains for students

Molly Tippen
Staff Writer

Michigan Educational Assessment Program (MEAP) test scores were released Monday, and the results in Romulus show a mixture of success and lingering challenges.

Superintendent of Schools Carl Weiss said district officials have not yet analyzed the scores, but that a glance at the scores indicates the schools are moving in a forward direction.

"We're getting where we want to be," he said. "That's not to say that there's not going to be a lot of working ahead of us, though."

The MEAP test was given to

students in the third through ninth grade in October 2006. The results indicate that math, English language arts and reading scores across the board are increasing. However, results on the writing and social studies tests – especially in the lower grades – still show many students are struggling.

"Writing is very hard to teach," said Weiss. "The scores in that category were still among the best in the county."

For grades third, fourth and fifth, the number of students performing at a proficient level in math, reading writing and English Language Arts improved. Among the top

increases include third grade math, which jumped 8.9 percent to 88.3 percent of students achieving state standards.

Other big increases include fourth grade English Language Arts, which jumped from 61.1 percent meeting state goals in 2005, to 76.8 percent in 2006 – an increase of 15.7 percent.

This year, fifth graders also took a science test, and 74.5 percent of the students met the state standards, versus 71.4 percent in 2005.

Though writing scores went up third and fourth graders, the results indicate that barely more than half of the students tested performed at a proficient level,

with only 55.2 percent and 54.5 percent of students performing at a proficient level on the test, respectively. Students in the fifth grade fared better, with 66.9 percent of students meeting state level.

Results for sixth graders for math, reading, social studies, writing and English language arts, showed increases only in math. Students posted an 8.7 percent increase in number of student performing proficiently from 2005, to 63.7 percent.

Scores on social studies test fell by 9.2 percent, to 63.5 percent. Reading and writing scores

See **Scores**, page 3

District braces for state cuts

Molly Tippen
Staff Writer

Romulus Community Schools officials aren't thrilled about the prospect of losing \$220 per student in aid, but added that programs and educators will not be shuttered if those reductions are finalized by the state.

The 4,310-student district — which receives about \$8,900 per pupil from the State School Aid Fund — will lose anywhere from \$800,000 to \$900,000 if the proposed cuts are implemented. The loss of the funds was expected, but the timing of the cuts makes the situation somewhat more challenging than it would have been if the cuts had been implemented at the beginning of the schools year, said Carl Weiss, superintendent of Romulus Community Schools.

"This could be a devastating blow to us, given that the amount we're talking about is more than we have in our fund balance," he said. "It's a huge number — how do you tell parent in March that the programs and people they have enjoyed for the entire school year will be gone because the district has to cut back?"

The \$220-figure is currently being considered by Gov. Jennifer Granholm's administrative staff as a way to plug an \$850 million budget deficit. The school aid fund is in the red by

See **Cuts**, page 3



In recognition

January is School Board Recognition Month, and the six-member Romulus Board of Education is looking at a busy 2007. The board is responsible for balancing a budget that is likely to face state cuts, overseeing curriculum matters, dealing with personnel issues and approving district spending. Recently, board members received a state resolution that recognized their ability to, "tackle the enormous job of governing school district and preserving the core of our democracy." The school board members are: Ken Mientkiewicz, Celeste Roscoe, Niema White, Tom Kuderick, Cheryle Buckley and April Frayer.

City explores minor league baseball park

Molly Tippen
Staff Writer

Professional baseball could soon be coming to Romulus.

City officials confirmed they are negotiating with a group to bring minor league baseball to a stadium it hopes to build at the Bear Creek property.

Tim Keyes, economic development director for the city, said he has been in talks with the group

for about 18 months.

"I can tell you we're talking with someone right now, and I cannot say who," he said. "We're in negotiations right now, and I was hoping to have an official announcement in 30 days, but I don't know if that's going to happen."

Minor League baseball could mean big business and big money for the city. The Toledo Mud Hens — a minor league team associated

with the Detroit Tigers — regularly sell out Fifth Third Field, which is located in downtown Toledo.

That structure, which seats 10,300 fans, cost \$22 million to build. Cincinnati-based commercial real estate company Bear Creek Capital signed a deal with the developers of the Metro World Center to place entertainment and retail projects.

See **Park**, page 3

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Belleville water rate hike could be 51 percent

Andrea King
Staff Writer

Belleville residents could see a 51 percent hike in their water bills soon, but they have a chance to voice their concerns about the increase on Feb. 5.

City officials were poised to approve the increase, which would have taken effect on Feb. 1, until Councilmember George Chedraue said he wanted to hear from the citizens before approving any rate changes.

"Some people are on a fixed income," he said. "I don't feel comfortable passing this without a public hearing."

Councilmember Walter Mears agreed. He said he'd like to see notification go out to the special at-risk groups of exactly how much the water and sewer bills will go up.

"I don't believe at risk groups should be at risk because of what we have done. They should not be the brunt of our mistakes," he said.

The 51 percent increase was recommended after an audit report showed the current water and sewer rates did not cover costs. At a meeting with auditors from the firm of Plante & Moran, council members were told about 36 percent would cover current operating, debt and capital requirements; 9 percent would cover the water and sewer cost increase and 6 percent would repay the borrowed funds during a 5-year period, according to Councilmember Lori Hecksel.

"The rates have been a hot spot with me since the report several weeks ago. I was appalled to see we had borrowed \$212,145 from other funds to cover our cash flow

shortages," she said. "This comes at a time when we are in the throes of a budget deficit elimination plan and have made significant progress toward financial recovery."

"The Detroit Water and Sewer Department has significantly raised rates every year and we have not matched those increases," she added. "We not only have to cover the current and increased operating, debt and capital requirements, but we also must now eliminate the created deficit."

Carl Johnson, an auditor with Plante & Moran, said the big picture is the rate increase from Detroit should have been passed on to Belleville residents.

"The big thing is not only borrowing money from other funds, but it cripples other funds. On paper it may look like some funds have money, but you couldn't do

anything with it anyway," he said. "The increase will only cover the costs, that's how far we've let it slip. It's critical for it to take place because the city is running out of money."

Hecksel also recommended that Belleville continue with the quarterly billing.

"While the residents may suffer at first from the sticker shock, the proposed increase would bring the cost per quarter to about \$139," said Hecksel. "These charges are based on actual usage."

The current water rate is \$2.83 per 1,000 gallons of water and \$2.91 for sewer. An average Sumpter Township resident pays \$140.19 per quarter, while Van Buren Township residents pay \$78.70 per quarter; however, they also have a bond millage with an average quarterly amount of \$104.25. Belleville is currently charging

\$95.10 a quarter for the same usage.

"Citizens have benefited for the last 4-5 years by not paying for it," said Johnson.

"We have an interesting situation because 25 percent of the community is non-taxable. It should be the users paying by use," said Mayor Tom Fielder.

A public hearing will take place at 7:30 p.m. on Feb. 5. Proposed rate changes will be effective March 1, if approved.

City increases fees for permits, inspections, licenses

Andrea King
Staff Writer

Costs for services will be increased in the City of Belleville.

Effective immediately, fees in the planning, building, police departments and treasurer's office will increase after officials approved the changes. Increases will include services such as permits, inspections, reviews, site plans and licenses.

The fees haven't been increased since 2000. Councilwoman Lori Hecksel said the city should address the issue more regularly.

"It doesn't make sense to me that we don't review this annually," she said. "We need to stay competitive and user-friendly so we're not making this jump."

Resident Phil Hecksel, who serves on the planning commission, said surrounding communi-

ties are charging more, which prompted the decision. Commissioners wanted to stop people from things like spot zoning and not paying their bills, he said.

"People were literally coming to the planning commission with site plans and schedules drawn on cocktail napkins," said Hecksel. "Those fees are still cheaper than surrounding communities. We're charging less and

still not getting the professional development. If they are serious, they will spend the money for the site plan, if not, then don't waste our time."

Auditor Carl Johnson said this was another case of city costs escalating and fees that did not keep pace.

For more information about updated and added city fees, contact Belleville City Hall at (734) 697-9323.

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THE HITCHER (R) 3:00, 5:05, 7:10 FRI/SAT LS 11:30

THE QUEEN (PG-13) 12:15, 9:15

STOMP THE YARD (PG-13) 12:05, 2:30, 4:55, 7:20, 9:45

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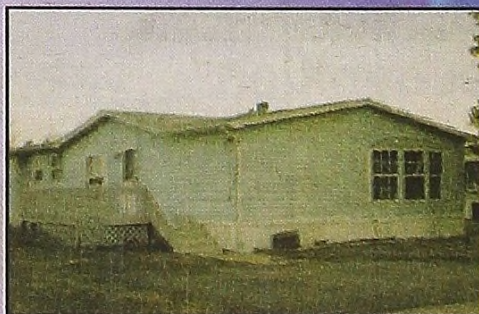
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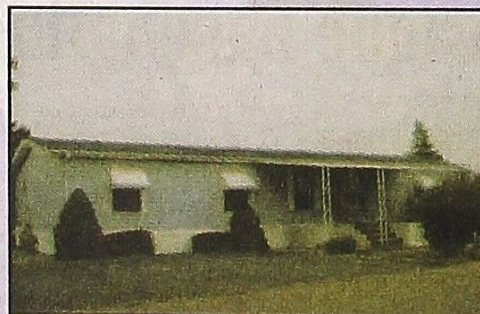
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Schools to expand choice program to lure students

Molly Tippen
Staff Writer

The need to increase revenue was the driving force behind the decision of Romulus Board of Education members to expand the first-ever School of Choice program.

The program, which allows out-of-district students to attend classes at Merriman and Halecreek elementary schools — was introduced as a pilot program. Romulus school board members voted unanimously to expand the program to Cory Elementary School at their regular Monday night meeting.

“We were successful this year, and expanding this program gives us an advantage in

terms of generating revenue, which is obviously badly needed,” said Carl Weiss, superintendent of Romulus Community Schools.

“It also does some other things — it rounds out some of our classes in buildings where there are fewer students,” he said. “We had some complaints about split classes, and we were able to eliminate two of those.”

Under the Schools of Choice Program, students can leave the district in which they live for another one, and take the state per-pupil funding with them.

However, in Romulus, out of district students have been a sore spot. Before the program was announced, a group of parents flooded a board meeting to

complain about parents from communities who pay lower school taxes to other communities enrolling their children in Romulus schools.

Board President Celeste Roscoe said there have been no complaints about the program.

“It’s because it was successful that we decided to expand it,” she said. “It’s only for the elementary school students — it’s not like it’s at the high school. We’re not looking to have a big program.”

The openings at Cory will mimic the ones at Halecreek and Merriman. There will be five spots in each grade at the kindergarten through fifth grade school, expanding the district-wide openings from 60

to 90. Students enrolled in School of Choice will be able to finish their school careers in Romulus.

Last year, about 35 new students enrolled in the classes through the program.

That meant about \$300,000 in revenue for the district, according to district figures.

Other school districts in the area have extensive programs to lure students from other districts.

The Inkster School District has about 250 students from Detroit enrolled in classes, and sends buses there to transport students. Weiss said the School of Choice students are made up of mostly local students.

“Some have parents that are

working at the school, others live nearby,” he said.

The schools have lost about 750 students during the past 5 years, and board member Tom Kuderick said that it was just a matter of time before the district would have to act to increase enrollment.

“You see kids that have left the district, and they’re still here, so they must be going somewhere,” he said. “Everyone around us had Schools of Choice, and it may have hurt us that we didn’t.”

Former Superintendent Joel Carr was adamantly opposed to Schools of Choice, but Weiss, when he was hired last year, convinced the board to sign on for a pilot program.

News in brief

Story time is back

Families looking for activities for children are invited to step out of the cold and into the Romulus Public Library for pre-school story time.

Story time is geared to children ages 3 to 5 years old.

Tuesday evening sessions will begin at 6:30 p.m. beginning Feb. 20, and Wednesday sessions will begin at 10:30 a.m. Feb. 28. The sessions will conclude on March 27 and 28, respectively.

The sessions are free, but advanced registration is required.

The library is located at 11121 Wayne Road, next to city hall.

For more information or to sign up, call the library at (734) 942-7589.

Chamber sponsors wine tasting event

The Romulus Chamber of Commerce will host a Silent Auction and Wine Tasting Dinner.

The wine tasting and auction will take place Feb. 9 at the Detroit Metro Airport Marriott Hotel in Romulus.

Local businesses and chamber members have donated items for a silent auction, and all of the proceeds generated will fund year-long chamber activities.

For more information about the cost of attending the event, call the chamber at (734) 893-0694.

Seniors can get help with Medicare D

Seniors who need help finding out which aspects of the new Medicare D program would benefit them most visit the Romulus Senior Center for assistance.

Linda Peak, a case manager for the Wayne-Metropolitan Community Action Agency, will be at the Senior Center from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on the fourth Wednesday of each month.

Seniors are asked to bring their Social Security and Medicare cards, a list of medications, proof of income, and any paperwork they have received about Plan D or the Michigan Medicare/Medicaid Assistance Program from the government.

For more information, call the Romulus Senior Center at (734) 955-4120.

Park

FROM PAGE 1

Keyes said it’s premature to speculate about the size or the scope of a facility that could be constructed in Romulus.

“It’s all premature right now,” he said.

What is certain is that having a field would be a good harbinger for increased business activity — and one that fits into the overall plan for Romulus to become an entertainment destination in Southeast Michigan, he said.

“When we started looking at businesses that would attract more business, this one of the first things that came up,” Keyes said.

Mayor Alan Lambert said a ball diamond would bring increased activity to the city.

“We can’t say too much about it now,” he said, “but it’s a great idea.”

A ballpark would join the already-planned casino and race-track slated to rise from a vacant parcel of land on Vining Road, once federal and state approvals fall into place. The city hopes that, with these larger projects, offshoot projects will come to town.

“Business breeds business, and that’s all there is to it,” said Councilman William Crova. “We’ve looked at this for a while, and it’s the type of thing that would attract smaller projects. If we can get it done, it would be a great addition (to the city).”

Officials hope restaurants, stores, retail outlets and other small businesses would be willing to do business in and around the new stadium.

Scores - Writing needs scores to improve, school says

FROM PAGE 1

fell only slightly, from 77.6 percent from 78 percent and 80.2 percent from 80.3 percent, respectively. English language arts scores remained unchanged from 2005 to 2006 — 75.7 percent of students tested achieved state standards.

Seventh and eighth graders posted some big gains. Math scores for seventh graders rebounded from 43.3 percent of students showing proficiency to 56.7 percent, an increase of 13.4 percent.

Writing scores for seventh and eighth grades improved significantly. About 65 percent of seventh graders met testing expectations in 2006, versus about 45 percent in 2005, for an increase of 20 percent. Eighth graders improved by about 12 percent, with 54 percent of students meeting standards in 2006, versus 41.6 percent in 2005.

Eighth grade students were also tested on their knowledge of science, and the results showed a 5 percent drop in students meeting standards, from 59.9 percent in 2005 to 54.5 percent in 2006.

Ninth graders took only the social studies test, and those

results were essentially flat, with about 59 percent performing proficiently in 2005 and 2006.

Tom Dolan, the schools curriculum director, said that overall, each school tested saw increases in scores.

“We spend a lot of money on teacher development and training to bring these scores up,” he said. “Could the test results be better? Sure. Test scores can always get better, and we’re working on that.”

Dolan said that overall, the district is happy with the results of the writing test. “The scores were consistent with what’s happening at the state level, and we’re very happy with them. We have a systemic approach to writing in the schools.”

School board members said Monday night that they had not had a chance to review the scores because of a problem in the state database schools use to look at scores. Board President Celeste Roscoe said there would be a discussion about the scores at the next school board meeting.

Having the scores in-hand means teachers will be able to implement programs to assist students immediately.

The idea is to help students

who don’t perform as well while they are still in the same grade, said Jim Griffiths, coordinator for assessment administration and reporting for the Michigan Department of Education.

“Our goal is to get (scores) out even quicker next year,” said Griffiths. “We’d like to have them out early December (for the) next cycle.”

Griffiths said schools also see test items along with detailed reports that show how each student answered an individual question.

Scores are devised using a standardized scale, which allows the state to compare students from year to year. Scoring high may be an individual’s goal, but the test is also designed to identify students with difficulties. For example, a raw score of 25 out of 55 may be considered proficient when converted to a standard score. No student is expected to actually answer all 55 questions correctly.

Complete MEAP results for all Michigan school districts are available at www.michigan.gov/mde.

Staff Writer Kevin Hill contributed to this report.

Cuts - After effects of school aid situation are unknown

FROM PAGE 1

about \$400 million, according to state estimates.

The overall school budget is \$43 million. In 2006, the district was forced to lay off 42 teachers, nurses, social workers, paraprofessionals, and clerical personnel to balance a \$1 million deficit.

It is not known yet what sorts of solutions the district will have to implement to balance the deficit, and the board will meet again to discuss a remedy after the state budget is finalized weeks from now, Weiss said. It is not known if more layoffs or program cuts will be a part of the fix.

A “Schools of Choice” program, in which out-of-district students could enroll at either Wick or Merriman elementary schools, generated about \$600,000 for the

district last year. Board of education members voted to expand that program at the Monday night meeting, but even if all 30 slots were filled for the next school year, it would likely be too late to help the district if the cuts come to fruition.

The Schools of Choice law — which allows districts to recruit from other schools who get low academic marks on state exams — allows districts to take the per-pupil district funding for each student it recruits.

Tom Kuderick, a member of the Romulus Board of Education, said the cuts could seriously disrupt the schools, and that he’s concerned that there’s no solution at the state level to stop the bleeding.

“We’d like to think that the state will be able to find some

way to balance its budget without cutting the schools, but I’m not sure they (state officials) have anything,” he said. “Things are just tough all over in Michigan right now.”

Board Member Ken Meinkiewicz agreed.

“It’s like a family’s budget — it’s finalized in June, and it’s difficult to go back months later to find the money,” he said. “There’s a lot that goes into this — if you have to lay off, you have to give 30 days notice to teachers. It’s March before anything can be done.”

Weiss said that he would meet tomorrow morning with State Rep. Hoon-Yung Hopgood to discuss the effect a cut could have on the district.

Granholtz will announce the parameters of her proposed state budget in February.

OPINION

Speak up - and still lose out

Canton Supervisor Tom Yack was right when he called for a stronger local voice in Lansing recently.

It's not the first time the supervisor has voiced such complaints and, unfortunately, it probably won't be the last.

This time he was critical of the so-called emergency panel put together by Gov. Jennifer Granholm to come up with ideas to fix the looming state budget crises. Chaired by former governors, it included a bevy of other former state and county officials—but no local supervisors, mayors or city managers.

It's a notable oversight.

You could probably make the argument that state officials—like everyone else these days—are now adept at making tough budget cuts. But the local officials have more experience in this. They've been the ones to tackle the tougher issues recently, and they're always the ones who have to directly answer criticism. When people complain that their garbage isn't picked up on time, their roads are falling apart or it took 45 minutes for a police officer to show up at their home, they don't take that dissatisfaction to Lansing. They take it to city hall, or township hall—to city council meetings or township board meetings. It must be frustrating to take that criticism and then be able to do little more than spread your hands in an apologetic gesture and point the fingers north.

Yack also called on his local colleagues to take up the fight, saying more mayors, supervisors, commissioners and trustees—and their compatriots in the local school districts—should be more openly critical of policies in Lansing.

That's a good idea, too, because it will help call attention to the issue. Sadly, we don't know how much impact that will have, either. State officials have heard most of it before, even if those complaints haven't included the specific numbers of police officers not on the street or other vital services. Still, we advocate a loud, continued pressure. Eventually, someone will take notice.

Facing the inevitable

Officials in the City of Belleville will soon face a daunting prospect.

They're pondering a 51 percent hike in water and sewer rates, which they say is necessary for the city to cover its costs and repay money borrowed from other funds.

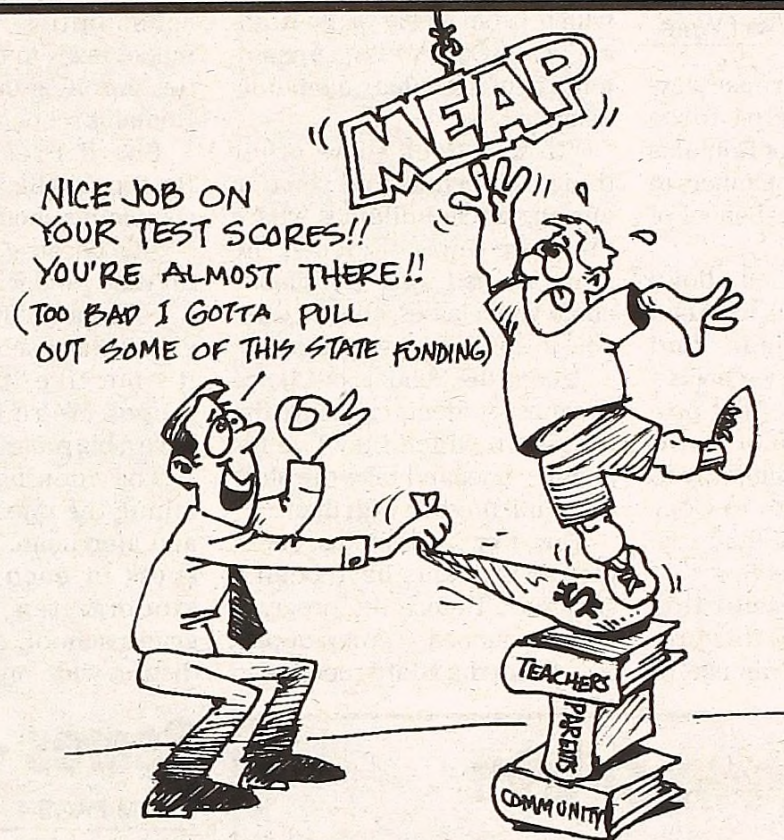
They probably should have done it already, but some members of the council wanted to wait to hear from the public first about what they could afford.

With all due respect, it's not necessarily about what the public can afford, but what the city can afford.

City officials may have thought they were doing residents a favor by not passing along rate increases set by the Detroit Water and Sewerage Board. That's what they did for the past several years and it's caught up to them—as it was bound to, eventually. The City of Plymouth faced the same decision several years ago—under the reign of current Belleville City Manager Steve Walters, who held that position in Plymouth at the time—and ended up approving a resolution to automatically pass on increases from Detroit to the residents.

Holding off on these increases may seem like the right thing to do. It's certainly a feel-good action for local officials, but it's not a very practical one. The simple fact is that it costs money to maintain the infrastructure—a system that, in a city like Belleville, is probably pret-

See **Rates**, page 5



Time to dust off the lawn signs

The Wayne City Council is set to begin the budget season Monday and it should be quite a show.

The study session is set for 7 p.m. at the Wayne Community Center, where a larger audience can watch the proceedings. I expect a breakdown of the current financial picture as well as a glimpse of future ones. Both are grim, but not hopeless.

This will be an interesting session—and an interesting season—for me, because it combines a few things I haven't seen here in Wayne—at least, I haven't seen the dynamics in action together.

In the midst of a tough budget cycle, one that caused a little municipal pain last year, members of the city council are facing reelection, too. At the same time—almost, anyway—they're seeking a new millage, a dedicated issue to provide long-term stability for road funding. That issue will technically be solved before the city campaign season gets fully under way—it's set for a May 8 vote, along with the Wayne-Westland School District—but it will be telling to see how members of the council and their expected opponents will respond to it in the months leading up to the election.

The same can be said for the budget cycle, too. The Wayne City Council will already be feeling the heat

from every decision they make or don't make through the many goals and study sessions set up throughout the budget approval process. I wonder, now, if everything they say will come across like a campaign promise or piece of reelect me literature.

Of course, people tend to talk more during campaign seasons, too. I expect a more crowded city council chamber, more posturing at the podium, plenty of promises and, no doubt, more than a few hair-brained ideas.

This is just the precursor of all of that, of course, like the preview before the main picture. The movie announcer guy might say something like this: *In a world, where budget cuts and layoffs are the norm, a few people will rise to take on the challenge...*

It's my hope, though, that more than a few will take up that challenge. I don't really have any problem, individually with any members serving on the council now—other than it's not a very diverse group. I just get frustrated with the regular cycle of people showing up to complain or tout their causes, but not going

See **Politics**, page 5

I want to audition every day

Destination Theatre is putting on a community-wide talent show in Canton Township, called the Canton Follies. A few weeks ago, one of the organizers, Jennifer Tobin, asked me to try out, and I had to quickly make her understand I have little skill, talent, coordination or control of my bodily functions when it comes to performing onstage.

Still, watching the new crop of hopeless wannabes on *American Idol* these past weeks has a way of making you think, "What if?"

You know, they make you prepare 16 bars when you audition for that TV show. I guess I could do that. The trick is to pick something they haven't heard a million times before, like Tchaikovsky's Fourth Symphony or the theme from *Rocky and Bullwinkle*.

With any luck I'd get to go right after someone who'd made a fool of himself. Someone who had performed magic, lunged at the judges' table, or said he was the next Frank Stallone.

Simon would ask me where I'm from, and I'd say, "Westland. It's about 40 minutes outside of Detroit. But now I actually live in Detroit."

Randy would say "All right, Motown!"

Paula would smile at me and ask me what I do for a living.

I would tell her I am a reporter and I cover Canton Township, not too far from Westland which is about 40 minutes outside of Detroit—sorry, I know I said that already, it's just that I'm a little nervous.

"Detroit Rock City!" Randy would exclaim. "I know some cats from Canton."

Paula would smile some more.

Encouraged, I would ask Randy who he knew, precisely. "Ahh, you know, just some people."

Having caught him in a bluff, I would be torn between my journalistic instinct to call him on it and my desire to get through to the next round of auditions.

Simon would nibble on his pen a little bit. Paula, veering wildly off-topic, would ask me "what's news" in Canton.

"It's like many towns," I'd say coolly. "There's some crime, some development. Plenty of activities, a lot of good people, like Teddy Kuslikis. I enjoy it."

"Teddy, I know him," Randy would nod.

Having fallen into my trap, I would have to confront him: "There is no Teddy Kuslikis in Canton, Randy. I think you have been lying about who you know."

Randy would shoot me an icy stare. Paula, still smiling. Simon would have lost his patience by then. "Kevin, what are you singing for us?" he would ask.

"I wanted to give you something fresh," I would say.

See **Idol**, page 5

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Festival seeks sponsors

The Belleville National Strawberry Festival is looking for new events to be a part of the family weekend event June 15-17.

The festival brings more than 200,000 visitors to the city to enjoy activities on Main Street from Five Points (Huron River Drive to Roys Street), St. Anthony's Church, Belleville Presbyterian Church, Trinity Episcopal Church and the parade on Saturday, June 16.

There is still time to become a sponsor and be included in print and media advertising and the website, which received more than 35,000 hits the week of the 2006 festival.

Anyone interested can attend the board meeting on Feb. 6. All events and participation in the festival must come before the festival board.

For more information contact the festival office (734) 697-3137 or (313) 383-8920.

Rates

FROM PAGE 5

ty old and in need of improvements—and those costs have to be factored into the rates. That is part of the reason for the continual increases coming down the pipes—pardon the pun—from Detroit. The massive system needs a lot of work.

So while it may be tempting to try to bite off this proposed increase in smaller

chunks, it makes more sense to swallow it all at once. The typical resident isn't going to start saving up ahead of time to pay for a water rate increase expected next year, but they may have better success in budgeting it in during the current year.

From now on, though, they should practice a line used in Plymouth and elsewhere that rates increases are passed along: We don't like it anymore than you do, but we don't have an alternative.

Idol

FROM PAGE 5

I'd hum an A-flat: "Huuhnnnnnnnnnnn," scrounge up my courage and launch into it—the chorus from Eddie Murphy's *Party All the Time*.

It would be transcendent. Although it sounds like Murphy is just repeating the song title over and over and over, my performance would feature clever if subtle variations. There would, ideally, be time to

explain all this to the judges.

Simon would ask them if I should advance.

Paula: "I'm sorry, no, but you made me smile."

Randy: "No."

Simon: "Hitsville, USA! Say 'hi' to Canton for me."

See, so why try? They edit those shows so much, they'd make me look, you know, crazy. I guess I should stick to "hiding behind the pen," as Tobin jokingly accused me of doing.

Oh, and Ted: Randy says "Hi."

Politics

FROM PAGE 5

any further than that. Besides, more candidates means more people to talk to—and I like talking to people.

I have another hope for the upcoming budget season, too, and that's that the council doesn't get too bogged down in the everyday items to set aside money to improve—or plan to improve—our town. It may seem a bit risky, but if they're not willing to take a chance on the city, who else will?

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Teacher feature

Addicted to education

College vice president hopes to inspire leadership in women

Andrea King
Editor

Bonike Odegbami has come a long way from her hometown in Nigeria.

She has moved around the United States from Georgia to Michigan, got married, raised a family and made education a priority in life.

"I'm addicted to education," she said. "That's my passion."

Odegbami, executive vice president of the Wayne County Community College District Western Campus, said that in her job no two days are alike.

"I'm in at 9 a.m. with the intentions of leaving at 5 p.m., but that rarely happens," she said.

As executive vice president, 34-year-old Odegbami is in charge of campus operations, instruction and administration. She has been at the campus for 3 years, which has made her confident that soon presidency is on the way, she said.

"When I first started, I think others believed in me more. I was responsible for the campus and I thought, 'what if I mess up?' But Dr. Curtis Ivery told me it was OK to make mistakes. In fact, he wanted us to make mistakes because we learn from them. Rather than being afraid I knew I had a support system," Odegbami said.

"I know I'm doing a good job. Campus operations and management is my strength," she added.

Odegbami, originally from Nigeria, knew at the age of 16 that education was going to bring her back to the U.S. She also knew she wanted to get far in life and, the states and education was going to get her there. That's when she decided to attend Bowie State University in Maryland for a bachelor's degree in psychology.

"I was on a quest to understand myself and my environment," said Odegbami. "I had an unhappy childhood because of family turmoil and I wanted to go into psychology."

However, that wasn't enough. She found things to be even more confusing, she said, because she was also juggling raising her son, Jomi, with a 'Nigerian mentality,' Odegbami said.

"I felt like I was doomed because in Nigeria if you have kids, people felt you couldn't achieve your other dreams," she said. "Although I felt the joy and love of having my son, I also felt I couldn't go as far as I wanted to in Maryland. I wanted to leave that environment, take a risk and step out of my comfort zone."

That meant attending Bowling Green State University in Ohio to receive a mas-

ter's degree in school psychology. It was there when Odegbami matured enough to ask herself what she wanted to be, she said.

"Something about higher education attracted me," said Odegbami. "Plus, I didn't see a lot of black instructors, particularly black women instructors, so part of my desire was to be that change."

Shortly after, Odegbami moved to Atlanta for her husband Folusho's job and, had another child, Yanju. It wasn't long until Wayne County Community College came calling for her. Friend and colleague David Beaumont, an administrator at the school, contacted her about a position. By the end of conversation she felt like she was coming to Wayne County Community College whether she liked it or not, she said.

Odegbami started at the western campus as a part-time evening dean, eventually moved up to the assistant to the president of the campus and, became executive vice president.

"I've learned the politics of education and I feel if I can make it here I can make it anywhere," she said. "I'm excited and look forward to moving up. Although we have a fantastic president here, I'm ready for it. I want my legacy to be that women can make it, particularly women of color."

Odegbami doesn't want to stop there either. Ultimately, she hopes to be an administer of education in Nigeria and, who knows, maybe even the mayor of Belleville.

"Belleville has become home to me. I love the people, campus and the area," she said. "My prayer to God has always been not to ever forget what it's like to be a student. I want to thank everyone who's ever had an impact on me both negative and positive. It's allowed me to grow."

Questions and answers...

What is the best piece of advice you've received?

The best place for yesterday is behind.

What are your hobbies?

Leadership roles in community organizations. (She is the vice president of the Belleville Rotary, president of the Michigan Chapter of the American Association of Women in Community Colleges and co-founder of the non-profit origination Public Health and Educational Needs in Nigeria (PHENIG).

What is your favorite kind of music?

I'm open to everything.

What is your favorite TV show?

Fox 2 10 p.m. news. I can't miss it.

What is the last book you've read?

"Who Moved My Cheese?" by Spencer Johnson.

What are you most proud of?

How far I've come. I'm my own biggest fan.

My childhood dream was to be

...an agent of change.

When nobody's looking I like to

...cry. It's not always a sad cry, but a happy cry when I think of the people I care about.



Bonike Odegbami

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SPORTS

'Fore' Kloc earns golf scholarship

Jeff Novak
Staff Writer

Those who play golf know it's one of the hardest sports to master.

For Belleville's Jillian Kloc it came naturally—so much so it earned her a partial golf scholarship to Madonna University after just one year of varsity play.

Kloc is the first to commit to Madonna's 2007-08 freshman class. She is also the first of the Belleville girls' program to earn a golf scholarship.

"Jillian is the perfect combination of a student-athlete that excels in academics and athletics," said Scott Marzolina, head women's golf coach at Madonna University. "She has an excellent attitude and will bring excitement to the Madonna women's program next fall."

"Jillian is a very strong player off the tee," he added. "She has a great willingness to learn and improve which will help her succeed in the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference."

Kloc was already accepted into the Madonna University School of Nursing. She is already eager to attend classes at the Livonia Campus next fall and play golf at the next level—something she didn't necessarily expect.

"It's exciting," said the senior. "I didn't ever think that I would play golf to have the opportunity to go to school and get an education and to take part in athletics."

"I really liked the friendly atmosphere," she added about the university. "I felt very welcomed the first time that I went there and everybody was friendly."

All of this was made possible thanks to a broken leg.

Kloc, a softball standout for the school, suffered a tragic compound fracture in an accident during a softball game and had to have a metal rod inserted from her knee to her ankle. It ended her softball career but opened up other doors. Deciding to take up something with a little less impact, she acted on her friend's suggestion to try out for the golf team her junior year.

"She was very athletic before she broke her leg and she said wanted to do something and wanted to try golf," said Pamela Kloc, Jillian's mother. "So I gave her my golf clubs and let her go. She picked it up quite naturally. I guess some good things do come from a broken leg."

In her first year she placed ninth in the Mega Red Conference Tournament. She averages 91 over 18 holes and has a career best of 41 in nine.

"She came out about a week into the



Belleville senior golfer Jillian Kloc signs her letter of intent to play the links for Madonna University in the fall.

season and wasn't afraid to hit in the snow, because we were practicing in the winter, and I knew she was a gamer," said Belleville Coach Mike Harding. "I was definitely impressed."

"Hopefully this is a step in the right direction for the program," he added. "It would be nice to get some of these other athletes to come over to the program and get them rolling through here."

The golf scholarship is only a partial one, but Kloc's good grades, school and community involvement earned her a

Dean's List Scholarship to help soak up most of the excess costs.

Kloc is president of the National Honors Society at Belleville High School and is a member of the student council. She has received the Daughters of American Revolution award, the Rotary Youth Leadership award and was named an Outstanding Leader of Belleville High School.

"We're really proud of her," said her father, John Kloc. "She's worked really hard for this—it's an honor."

Canton cooks up 2 more wins buzzer-beater sinks Wayne

Jeff Novak
Staff Writer

The Canton Chiefs started out the season shaky but now they are shakin' things up.

Take last week for example.

The hoopsters demonstrated their talent and their resilience while cooking up two big wins. Both came against Western Division foes to put Canton above the .500 mark (5-4) for the season. It also makes them 2-0 in division play—a far cry from the surprising 0-4 start the Chiefs had on the season.

First, they knocked off host and cross-campus rival Plymouth, 47-40, on Tuesday. Then, with a buzzer-beating triple from Neil Sharma, Canton got by Wayne, 50-49, on Friday.

Canton was down 49-47 with about 18 seconds left after Mike Lee hit the go-ahead basket for Wayne. Canton gained possession and called timeout to get the ball at half court with about 17 seconds left. Canton's pass went out of bounds under the basket with just two clicks left on the clock but Canton retained possession. The inbound pass went to Sharma—the team's best three-point shooter—and he beat the clock.

"We only had two seconds left," said Canton Coach Charlie Paye. "My junior varsity coach, Dan Colligan, drew up a play for Sharma and it worked."

Canton first raced to a 15-8

lead after one period of play. Wayne closed the gap to five at the half with a solid 20-point quarter. Then Canton came out flat after the intermission and only scored six. That allowed Wayne to move into the lead, 40-39, after three rounds.

Canton regained the lead in the fourth. The Chiefs were up 47-45 before Wayne countered with back-to-back scores, including Lee's to put them up again. As they say: the rest is history.

"We played really well and just got the short end of it," said Wayne Coach Wayne Woodard. "We held them to 50, which is a pretty good number to keep a team to have a chance to beat them. (Canton) had to run their last play perfect and they did."

Solid Wayne defense limited Canton's top scorer, Ryan Waidmann, to eight points. He also had 10 rebounds.

Paye said Wayne's quickness got the best of his Chiefs at times.

"Wayne is quick—a little too quick for us," he said. "I knew they were small and quick and sometimes that hurts us because we're bigger. But we're pretty balanced scoring-wise, which makes it tough to game-plan for."

Sharma led the Chiefs with 22 points. He hit 4-of-6 triples and went 5-for-6 from the field. Waidmann had eight. Josh Butler and Deverone Jackson each added six.

See **Chiefs**, page 9



Whalers split week

Whaler Ryan McGinnis (above right) battles Sarnia's Tomas Pospisil for the puck in Plymouth's 5-1 home victory on Saturday. Joe McCann (23) rushes Sarnia's goalie Parker VanBuskirk against Sting defenders Ryan Wilson and Danny Anger. Photos by Ken Garner



SPORTS

Eagles get boost with 2 wins

Jeff Novak
Staff Writer



Romulus junior Dominique Buckley (1) tries to snatch the ball form Truman's Omar Sharp in last Tuesday's 89-75 victory. Photo by Ken Garner

Romulus is quickly proving that they are one of the top teams in the state.

The Eagles' deep and talented roster wreaked havoc on Willow Run and Taylor Truman last week. The wins boosted Romulus to 6-4 overall and kept them undefeated in Mega Red play, 4-0.

Romulus kept its points-per-game average (77) going with a 78-58 victory against last Willow Run on Friday.

The eagles scored 78 points even though they missed 63 shots in the contest. The result was 43 offensive rebounds for Romulus and 20 defensive ones for the Flyers, according to Romulus Coach Nate Oats.

"That's absolutely unheard of," he said. "We missed a lot of shots but came out in the third and played great defense and that helped in the second half."

Most of Romulus' missed shots were in the first half where Willow Run snuck out to a 38-32 lead at the break. The Eagle defense clamped down to hold the Flyers to just 20 second-half points.

Junior Mario Crawford and senior rod Walker took turns guarding the Flyers' top scorer Eric Thomas. They limited him to 14, 10 of which came in the first quarter. After that he hit a free throw in the second and a triple in the fourth.

"The switched off on guarding him," Oats said. "They both did a really good job and knew where he was all the time and really pressed him."

Romulus' offense got on a roll, too. The Eagles scored 23 points in each of the second-half quarters.

Senior Devin Searcy led all scorers with 23 points and 18 assists. Junior Mario Crawford added 11. Dominique

Buckley and Laron Rodgers each scored eight.

Romulus had to pull out all of its punches to beat Taylor Truman, 89-75, at home on Tuesday.

The win showed that it will be tough for teams to overcome Romulus' depth.

"Truman wore down," Oats said. "We just tired them out. However, we didn't play that great on defense, giving up 75 points."

Truman got the best of Romulus in the first, outscoring the Eagles, 18-17. Romulus got on track and took a 33-30 lead into the locker room. Truman kept it close as both teams scored 22 in the third. Spectators caught a glimpse of Romulus' future when Sophomores Rashard Porter and Valdez Green came off the bench and made some big shots. Green hit two triples and Porter one to spark the team in the fourth quarter. Green ended with 15 while Porter hit for 11.

Buckley led the Eagles with 16 points and 11 assists. Searcy had another great game with 15 points and eight rebounds.

Romulus is off this Friday but will resume its high-scoring antics when they host archrival Belleville at 7 p.m. on Tuesday.

Romulus wrestles to 5th place

Jeff Novak
Staff Writer

The Romulus Eagle grapplers placed fifth at the Woodhaven Invitational on Saturday—another sign that team is improving.

"We are moving in the right direction, but still need to work on our basics, admitted Romulus Coach David Cooper. "We're a young team. Experience is only going to help. I'm very pleased with the 5th place out of 16 teams. I think we could have done better, but had some wrestlers out of action."

Those that did compete did well.

Joe Lewis, at 125 pounds, was seeded third and upset the second seed in the

semi finals to take second place in the weight class, according to Cooper.

Thomas Kuderick was faced in a similar situation in the 140-poundclass. He wasn't seeded at all but upset the third seed.

Brian Housholder finished second in the 160-pound class. Carl Roscoe (112), Earl Hunt (135) and Patrick Sutter (152) all took third places in their respective classes. Mike Statham took fourth in the 145-pound class.

On Thursday, Romulus beat Willow Run, 84-24, and Inkster, 53-42.

The Eagles host Mega Blue foe Melvindale at 6 p.m. today and head to the Southgate Anderson Invite at 9:30 am on Saturday.



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SPORTS

Belleville redeems only loss, beats Taylor Truman

Jeff Novak
Staff Writer

It took 19 lead changes to decide the outcome of the Mega Red battle between Belleville and Taylor Truman on Friday night in Taylor.

It was Belleville that was on the receiving end of the final change—the 13th of the second half—for a 55-49 victory.

For those that don't remember, it was the Cougars that beat Belleville in the regional championship last year, making this a grudge match against a Truman team that only lost one player from last year's roster.

For Belleville Head Coach Don Hickman, who was an assistant coach last year under Mike Krogel, this was the biggest win of his career.

"The loss to Monroe was unexpected and if we were to lose to Truman it could have changed the mentality of the season," he said. "Because of that, it was our

biggest win of the season—as a team so far and for me as a coach."

There were other challenges the Tigers faced last week other than the Cougars. It was finals week for the Belleville school community and students were off Friday (game day) to further throw them off of the their regular routine.

The biggest contributor for Belleville was 6-foot-2 senior Anthony Wafer who had the toughest assignment of all—guarding Truman's top scorer Paul Reyes. Wafer limited Reyes to just two field goals through the game. He also scored some of the biggest baskets to help Belleville back from a five-point deficit in the last three minutes, according to Hickman.

"If we don't have Wafer, we don't win the game," he said. "He put a lot of pressure on Reyes. He not only held Reyes to 12 points—well below his average—he scored 11 for us."

Omar Sharp's bucket with 39 seconds

left gave Truman a 49-48 lead. Caral Dial hit the front end of a pair from the line to even the score for Belleville. It was Wafer that nabbed Dial's second-shot rebound and tipped it in for what would be considered the winning shot.

Belleville's Marius Williams went 4-for-4 from the line down the stretch to solidify the win. He finished with a game-high 14 points.

Truman's Nathaniel Jones, Jr. and Marcus Knott scored 12 along with Reyes.

"You don't get wins like this without

character kids," Hickman said. "I'm really proud of the guys. It was a tough week and to go into a tough atmosphere at Truman shows a lot of character and shows that we can win some of these games that people don't think we will get. It was definitely our biggest win."

The win puts them at 2-1 in the Red—still one game back form archrival Romulus (4-0, Red). The two teams meet up at 7 p.m. in Tiger territory on Tuesday.

Before that, though, Belleville heads to Ypsilanti for another rival game at 7 p.m. on tomorrow.

Chiefs

FROM PAGE 7

Mike Lee scored 20 for Wayne.

Against Plymouth, the Chiefs churned out a 41-40 lead. Then Canton went 6-of-7 from the charity stripe in the last 1:30 to put the game away.

"We had a three-point attempt rim out with 21 seconds left," said Plymouth Coach Tom Van Wagoner. "That would have tied the game at 43. Then Canton finished the game by making their free throws."

The game was close all the way through.

Canton outscored the Wildcats, 13-11, after one and clung to a 21-20 lead going into the locker rooms at halftime. The Chiefs' margin grew after a 13-11 third before Plymouth made their comeback in the fourth.

Steve Paye and Sharma led Canton with 12 points each. Waidmann added 11 and Josh Butler, nine.

Brandon Roberts scored 10 for Plymouth. Canton plays host to Franklin at 7 p.m. tomorrow and heads to a tough Northville gym for a 7 p.m. tip on Tuesday.

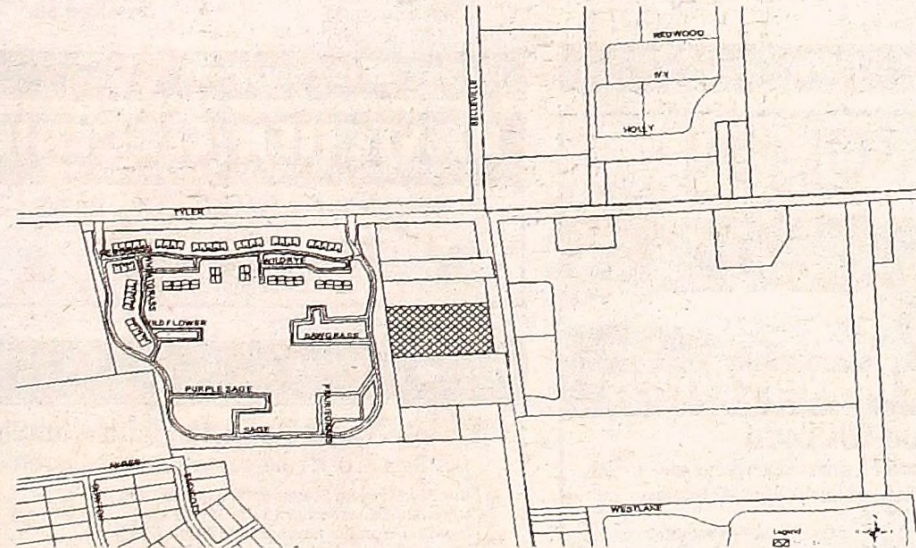
Plymouth is home against Wayne at 7 p.m. on Friday and Franklin at 7 p.m. on Tuesday. Wayne heads to Western at 7 p.m. on Tuesday.

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN
PLANNING COMMISSION
PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the Charter Township of Van Buren Planning Commission will hold a public hearing in the Board of Trustees Room, 46425 Tyler Road, Charter Township of Van Buren, County of Wayne, Michigan, 48111 on **Wednesday February 14, 2007 at 7:30 p.m.** to consider a zoning change on the following described property:

Parcel number V125-83-061-99-0004-701 approximately 3.5 acres proposed to be rezoned from C-1 General Business to C-2 Executive Highway Business.

A map indicating the location of the subject site is included below.



This property is located on the west side of Belleville Road south of Tyler Road.

Written comments will be accepted at the Department of Developmental Services until 5:00 p.m. on the hearing date of February 14, 2007.

In the spirit of compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, individuals with a disability should feel free to contact the Department of Developmental Services, at least seventy-two (72) hours in advance of the meeting, if requesting accommodations.

Posted: January 25, 2007
Publish: January 25, 2007

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN
PLANNING COMMISSION
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Charter Township of Van Buren Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, February 14, 2007 at 7:30 p.m., in the Board of Trustees Room, 46425 Tyler Road, Charter Township of Van Buren, Wayne County, Michigan.

The Public Hearing relates to the following described property:

Parcel number V125-83-059-01-0008-001 approximately 1.03 acres is located on the east side of Belleville Road on the SE Corner of Belleville Road & N. I-94 Service Drive. A map indicating the location of the subject site is included below:



The applicant is requesting special use approval. A special use approval is required for a drive-thru restaurant in accordance with Section 12.03(d) of the Zoning Ordinance. Written comments will be accepted at the Department of Developmental Services until 5:00p.m., February 14, 2007.

In the spirit of compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, individuals with a disability should feel free to contact the Department of Developmental Services at least seventy-two (72) hours in advance of the meeting, if requesting accommodations.

Posted: January 25, 2007
Publish: January 25, 2007

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06. Legal Notices
07. Attorneys
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99. Flats for Rent
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116. Antique & Classic Cars
117. Trucks & Vans for Sale
118. Freebies
119. Auto Repairs
120. Motorcycles
121. Autos Wanted

1. Obituaries

CRAWFORD, Lela 84 of Westland, MI, died January 16, 2007. Beloved wife of the late William. Dear mother of JoAnn (Larry) Wall and Larry (Sheri). Loving grandmother of Angela (Mark), Pamela (Mike), William and Brandon. Great-grandmother of Evan, Luke, Eliza and Ryan. Funeral services were held at Harry J. Will Funeral Home in Wayne with Pastor Kurt Radke officiating. Interment was at Cadillac Memorial Gardens, Westland.

PHILLIPS, June Doreen, 77, of Indian River, passed away on Thursday, January 18, 2007 at the Northern Michigan Hospital in Petoskey. June was the only child of Ralph and Vera Bett, born at Grimsby, England on June 15, 1929. She grew up in Cleethorpes, Lincolnshire, England and joined the Royal Air Force as a teen. On March 26, 1949, June married Harvey Howard Phillips, a U.S. Army Air Force Staff Sergeant stationed in England, at the Old Clee Church in Cleethorpes. June and Harvey then settled in Garden City and later Wayne, Michigan, where they raised their two children. June had been employed as a journalist with the Garden City Guardian and later the Wayne Eagle. She also was a receptionist and assistant at various doctors' offices in the Detroit area. After moving to Lincolnshire, Illinois and later Lansing, Michigan, the couple retired to Rogers, Arkansas in 1990. June and Harvey were avid motorcycle riders and traveled through the states. June also enjoyed volunteering at Ryerson Wildlife Sanctuary in Illinois and St. Mary's Hospital in Arkansas. June was preceded in death by her husband, Harvey in 2000. She is survived by her children, Susanne (William) Owen of Cane Hill, AR and Gary (Carol) Phillips of Wolverine; grandchildren Gary (Laura) Phillips II of Afton; Jacob (Katerina) Phillips of Baumholder, Germany; Cory (Rena) Phillips of Petoskey; Rebecca Phillips of Indian River; Hannah Phillips of Wolverine; great-grandchildren Kava Irene Phillips, Parker Mason Phillips and Kamea Leilani Phillips. Memorial services will be Wednesday 1:00 PM at MacDonald's Funeral Home, Howell (517-546-2800). Interment will be in Lakeside cemetery. Memorial contributions may be made to Best Friends, a no kill animal sanctuary located at 5001 Angel Canyon Rd., Kanab,

UT 48741-50000. Interment will be a Lakeside Cemetery, Howell. Lintz Funeral Home in Indian River cared for the family. Visit online guest book macdonaldsfuneralhome.com

30. Help Wanted

NOW HIRING: Companies desperately need employees to assemble products at home. No Selling, any hours. \$500 weekly potential. Info. 985-646-1700. Dept. MI-7180

Sherwin Williams Paint Co. is seeking PT help for their Canton store. Approx. 20 hrs/wk. Call 734-495-9441

33. Child Care

Loving Christian Mother looking to care for your child in my Wayne home. Early childhood education background, healthcare & special needs experience. References available. (734) 721-6315 or (734) 262-4097

40. Business Opportunity

AVON Needs Reps. NOW!!! Earn up to 50% Heather 734-765-4496

Earn Extra Money Full / Part Time Home Based Business Call: 734-890-1250

Office Space for Lease Downtown Romulus 620 sq. ft. Near I-94 & I-275 Great for accounting, legal or insurance practices \$600/mon. 734-941-0323

44. Music Lessons

Guitar lessons, Beginners to Intermediate Pop, rock, country & blues Professional musician with 30 yrs. experience Call 734-459-0385

46. Private Schools/Instruction

Discovery Academy



Now Enrolling Grades K-6 For our 2007-2008 School year. Enrollment begins 1/22/07

For more information, please call **313-827-0762** 27355 Woodsfield, Inkster, MI 48141

55. Estate Sales

ESTATE SALE 313 Bay Pointe Dr. Belleville, MI (Next to Belleville HS) in Harbour Pointe Sub.

Better furniture, complete dining room, living room, office, fine art, TVs, sports memorabilia & much more.

Jan. 26 & 27 9:00am - 5:00pm Call 734-612-6640 for directions

59. Auctions

Notice is hereby given that on 2/22/07 at 1:30pm, the following will be sold by competitive bidding at: The Storoom Self Storage, 40600 Michigan Avenue, Canton MI:

Space #924-John Wagner: Misc. small appliances, household goods, TV/electronics, household furnishings, boxes/bags, toys, power tools, recreation equipment, snow removal equipment, lawn care equipment, other misc. items; Space #1120-Danny R. Napier II: Household furnishings, toys, recreation equipment, exercise equipment, other misc. items; Space #1002-Amy Garris: Household appliances, household furnishings, household goods, boxes/bags, toys, hand tools, recreation equipment, office equipment, other misc. items; Space #304-Gregory Stephens: Household furnishings, boxes/bags, exercise equipment, other misc. items; Space #735-Megan Marie Hansor: Misc. small appliances, household goods, boxes/bags, toys, other misc. items.

Notice is hereby given that on 2/21/07 at 11:30am, the following will be sold by competitive bidding at:

Stor-N-Lock 7840 N. Wayne Rd. Westland, MI:

Space #L-20-Jamil Canasi: Household appliances, household furnishings, hand tools, power tools,

lawn care equipment, other misc. items; Space #B-15-Leroy Williams: Household furnishings, other misc. items; Space #P-18-Robert Garry: Household appliances, misc. small appliances, household furnishings, hand tools, power tools, other misc. items; Space #L-4-Byron Gardner: Household appliances, household furnishings, household goods, boxes/bags, power tools, recreation equipment, lawn care equipment, office equipment, other misc. items; Space #L-27-Brenda Williams: Boxes/bags, clothing, other misc. items; Space #H-28-Jason Michael Collins: Household appliances, boxes/bags, clothing, recreation equipment, other misc. items; Space #D-28-L. Kai Hopkins: Misc. small appliances, household furnishings, household goods, boxes/bags, power tools, recreation equipment, other misc. items; Space #P-30-Daniel Pigg: Boxes/bags, clothing, other misc. items, car carrier; Space #E-17E-Gail Turner-Boxes/bags.

AUTO AUCTION Howard's Towing & Collision 35830 Van Born Rd. Wayne, MI 48184 734-326-1114

January 30, 2007 1:00 PM

1988 Volvo YV1AX8849J1297233 2000 Jeep 1J4FF48S1YL121758 1999 Ford 1FAFP66L4XK198449 1996 Ford 2FMDA5148TBB82476 1993 Chrysler 2C3EL56T5PH595790 1999 Ford

1FAFP53S1XT231867 1992 Chevrolet 1G1LT53T4NY138150 1997 Toyota JT3HN87R1V0070125 1995 Ford 1FALP6241SH111016 1997 Dodge 1B3ES47CXVD234428 1992 Chevrolet 2GCEC19K3N1250027 1988 Chrysler 1C3BC56K9JF208239 1992 Dodge 1B7GG23X6NS564181 1993 Mercury 4M2DV11WXPDJ53638 2000 Ford 1FMZU70E8YUA91101

All Vehicles Sold "As Is" Cash Only

AUTO AUCTION J & M TOWING 8964 Inkster Rd. Romulus, MI 48174 (734) 946-4101 Jan. 31, 2007 at 11:00am

1994 Pontiac 1G2HX52L1R4201449 1984 Ford 1FTEF15NXLRLA38703 1994 Ford 1FALP5248RG208434 1994 Ford 1FDEE14H4RHB29575 1994 Honda 1HGE68645RL047645 1991 Buick 1G4EZ13L5MU408110 1987 Chrysler 1C3BF66P9HW112369 1996 Plymouth 2P4FP2SB0TR797268 1999 Plymouth 3P3ES47V9XT520245 1992 Buick 1G4HR53L3NH402059 1995 Dodge 1P3ES47C6SD540455 1991 Ford 1FAFP6047MH130886 1990 Oldsmobile 2G3AL54N0L2365537 1996 Honda 1MGCD565XTA039552 1996 Dodge 1B7HB21YXTK102762 1989 Ford 1FAFP9197KW312723

32. Help Wanted Drivers



Furniture Delivery Drivers

Non-CDL Local

Exel, a global logistics leader, has an immediate need for career-minded, WORLD CLASS individuals to fill Local Delivery Driver openings.

We offer:

- High Earnings
- Monthly bonus
- Local Routes
- Great Benefits
- Great Team Environment

Qualifications include:

- Minimum of 2 years driving exp
- Chauffeur's License
- Good driving record
- Lift up to 100 lbs.
- Exp. with appliance installation and furniture set-up delivery is desired.

Apply in person or send resume to:

29149 Airport Rd, Building 17

Romulus, Michigan 48174

Tim.Maier@US.exel.com

Call 734-947-9274

Fax 734-947-9171



www.exeldirect.com

1992 Ford 1FMDA41X3NZA47717 POD WEHAUL0032 POD WEHAUL0529 1996 Dodge 1B7HB21YXTK102762 1989 Ford 1FAFP9197KW312723 1992 Ford 1FMDA41X3NZA47717 1995 Eagle JE3AB50G25U018661 1990 Chevrolet 1G1JC84G9L7181914 1992 GMC 1GKDM19Z7NB544573 1993 Ford 1FM0A31U4PZC47038

61. Misc. Items

NEW Queen Size Orthopedic Pillow Top Mattress and Box Set. Brand New in plastic with full manufacturer warranty. Can deliver. ONLY \$95.00 (734) 326-2744

KING Size Orthopedic Mattress and Split Box Set. Brand "NEW" in plastic with full factory warranty. Delivery Available. Sacrifice \$170.00 (734) 721-3799

SOFA & LOVESEAT Micro-Fiber/Beige Life-Time warranty on frame and fabric warranty. NEW in crate. Delivery Available. Sacrifice for ONLY \$495.00 (734) 637-2012

NEW 7-Piece Cherry Sleigh Bed Bedroom Suite

Brand New in boxes Value \$1,795 Sacrifice \$700 Can Deliver 248-449-5699

2pc Queen Pillow Top Mattress Set New in plastic Sacrifice \$100 Can deliver 734-891-8481

3pc King Pillow Top Mattress Set New in plastic Sacrifice \$180 734-891-8481

Bed-Full size mattress set. "New" still in wrapper w/warranty Sacrifice \$90 734-891-8481

Hot tub-'07, NEW 40 Jets, 6 Person \$3200, Can Deliver 313-586-0008

87. Rooms For Rent

AAA Willow Acres Motel, low daily and weekly rates. Refrigerator, microwave, HBO. Call 734-721-1220 Tel-96 Inn 313-535-4100 Fairlane in Novi 248-347-9999 Days Inn/Sunrise Motel 734-427-1300

Wayne & Mich. area, apt. for rent. From \$110 per week Free heat, electric and water. 35641 Brush St., Next To Kroger in Downtown Wayne Call 734-890-2033 For further info.

Call 734-467-1900 to place your classified ad.

34. Specialized Services

BRATCHER ELECTRIC

COMPLETE CUSTOMER SATISFACTION SINCE 1956

Remodeling • Service • City Repairs

734-722-0037 35728 Van Born • Wayne

Worship Directory

Christ Temple Apostolic Faith Church

DISTRICT ELDER LUKE A. MCCLENDON, PASTOR

Sunday { Sunday Morning Prayer (8:00 a.m.-9:00 a.m.) Christian Education (9:15 a.m.-11:00 a.m.) Morning Worship Service (11:15 a.m.-1:30 p.m.) }

Nursery Room Available for Children 4 Years of Age and Under 29124 Eton Street • Westland, MI 48186 • 734-326-3833

St. Matthew Lutheran Church & School

5885 N. Venoy • Westland MI 48185 Phone: 734-425-0260

Sunday School 9:30am

Sunday Service 8am & 11am • Monday Evenings 7pm

Pastor Kurt Lambert & Pastor Paul Pallatz

Preschool 3 through 8th grade-Fully Accredited

Join Us For Worship

Dana L. Darby, Pastor "Embrace Each Other As We Serve God" **Sunday School 9:00 a.m.**

New Jerusalem Missionary Baptist Church 821 Inkster Rd., Inkster, MI 48141 Tel: 313-565-3006 **Morning Worship 10:45 a.m.**

88. Duplexes For Rent

WESTLAND-NORWAYNE
Call for list of clean, renovated 2 & 3 BR duplexes. Most units Lead Paint safe. Section 8 vouchers welcome. Some pets permitted. Flexible move-in cost. Professional local full-time management and service. Office at 2365 S. Venoy. Norplex Associates 734-722-6444 EHO

Large remodeled 3-bedroom duplex for rent near Palmer and Merriman 1250 Sq. Ft. \$675/mon. plus util. Call 248-703-1825

WESTLAND
2 & 3 Bdrm. duplexes 950 - 1150 sq. ft. Immediate Occupancy! Section 8 Welcome Starting at \$475/mon. Call: 734-673-7550

WESTLAND
2-3BR Duplexes 900-1,100 sq. ft. Updated & freshly painted Sec. 8 welcome Starting at \$525 plus sec. dep. Full Time Mgt. staff CALL FOR MOVE-IN SPECIALS Call 734-507-9149

89. Apartments For Rent

\$0 App. fee 4 weeks FREE rent, Nothing to lose & everything to gain! 1 & 2 BDR Specials 734-941-7070 EHO

Apartment for Rent WESTLAND AREA
1, 2 & 3 bdrms. avail. Call 734-449-0966

BELLEVILLE
1 Bedroom apt. with extra computer room. Located in downtown Belleville Gas & water inc. \$500/mon. Call 734-645-7918

INKSTER
Oakland Manor Apts. Deluxe 1BR, 680 sq. ft. \$99 Deposit (some restrictions apply) Section 8 welcome call 313-920-5966 or 734-444-5185 or 734-718-8409

Norwayne
1 bedroom apartment Completely remodeled 33029 Alamo Ct. \$395/month + security. 734-722-6646

PLYMOUTH
McCool Apartments Spacious 1 & 2 BRs Heat included Assigned Parking Walking Distance to Downtown Plymouth 2 Months FREE RENT on All 1 Bedrooms Located at Sheldon & N. Territorial 1 BDs from \$531/mon. Call for details 810-240-8373

WAYNE
Near Wayne Road Quiet and clean 1 BR Heat and water inc. Ideal for singles and retirees. No Pets \$450 moves you in with approved credit Sec. 8 welcome 313-561-9818 or 313-247-2075

WAYNE, MI
Quiet 1 Bedroom, well maintained, heat/water/A/C inc., no pets Great for singles & retirees \$470/month 1/2 OFF 1ST MONTH Call a manager @ 734-729-2108 or 734-718-9521 or owner @ 734-878-0859

YPSILANTI AREA BRYN MAWR APTS.
2277 S. Grove, Ypsi 734-483-2332 Large, clean 1 & 2 BR *Quiet park-like setting *Outdoor swimming pool *On-site staff Open 5 days 8am-5pm Saturday 10am-3pm www.realstar.ca

96. Houses For Rent

Houses for Rent WESTLAND AREA 2 & 3 bedrooms avail. Call 734-449-0966

INKSTER
Spacious brick Pets ok \$625

INKSTER
4BR, garage Option 2 buy \$700

Many Homes Available RENTAL PROFESSIONALS 734-513-RENT

ROMULUS
House for rent I-94 and Wayne Rd. 3 BR, 2 BA Full basement, 2 car garage, No pets \$1000/month 734-657-3267

ROMULUS
4BR, basement, air Garage \$700

ROMULUS
Ranch, garage Pets negotiable \$825

RENTAL PROFESSIONALS 734-513-RENT

WAYNE
Ranch, appliances Fenced for pets \$700

BELLEVILLE
3BR Colonial Remodeled \$725

All Cities Available RENTAL PROFESSIONALS 734-513-RENT

Call 734-467-1900 to place your ad.

WESTLAND
3BR, fenced Remodeled \$675

WESTLAND
3BR, den, air Remodeled \$720

Several Homes Available RENTAL PROFESSIONALS 734-513-RENT

106. Houses For Sale

WESTLAND
401 N. Sybald (N. off Cherry Hill-W. of Newburgh) 734-595-0989 Spacious 3BR Colonial Built in 1995 2 car attached garage, basement, hardwood floors throughout, family room w/fireplace & built-in shelving Oversized wooded lot Large cedar deck Great Neighborhood! \$205,000

109. Income Property

WESTLAND
Duplexes & Quads 2 & 3 Bedrooms 950 - 1150 sq. ft. Recently Remodeled Call: 248-974-4907 for more details

118. Freebies

12' X 8' Berber carpet Beige \$29.95 313-363-6396

Cat-1 yr. old-spayed Gray, exotic short hair Very friendly & playful Asking \$25.00 734-721-9095

121. Autos Wanted

CASH PAID FOR JUNK AUTOS & TRUCKS 365 DAYS/YEAR PICKED UP ANYWHERE 734-729-7788

Top \$\$\$ Paid For Junk, Disabled or Wrecked Cars Drive it in or we'll pick it up CTS AUTO PARTS 16007 Pardee, Taylor (Just North of Wm. F. Sell) (734) 282-1700

BOLD PRINT ATTRACTS MORE READERS! CALL 734-467-1900 to place your ad.

90. Condos/Townhouses for Rent

Parklane Townhouses Co-Op, Inc.

SPECIAL!

Spacious Apartment Homes - 1 bedroom

We Welcome All New Applicants

\$450 Security Deposit PLUS...1st MONTH'S RENT!

"Enjoy A Beautiful Living Experience"

Stop by today meet our friendly Management & Office Staff Monday - Friday 9-5 or

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3674 Middlebelt Road Inkster, MI 48141

1 block south of Michigan, next to Inkster High School

Funeral DIRECTORY

Harry J. Will

Funeral Homes 34567 Michigan Ave., Wayne, MI 48184 (734) 721-5600

Tom Lynch • Manager Also in Livonia & Redford Jim Henley • Director

UHT FUNERAL HOME

Harold Rediske Jr., Director Harold Rediske II, Robert J. Gilbert, 35400 Glenwood Road Westland, MI 48186 • (734) 721-8555 www.uhtfuneralhome.com

24 HOUR SERVICE • FAX 278-7314

The Penn Funeral Home

"The Funeral Home You Can Believe In" JAMES H. PENN & SON 3015 S. Inkster Rd. Inkster, MI 48141 313-278-6300

Business and Service Directory

Accounting & Tax Services

Bottom Line

Accounting & Tax Services LLC Phone: (734) 306-8264 www.blats.net Professionally Prepared: Individual & Corporate Tax Returns, Bookkeeping & Financial Statements. Individual Tax Returns \$100 e-filed.

Appliances

Appliance Outlet Sales & Service

Refrigerators, Stoves, Washers, Dryers (Gas or Electric) Warranty & Delivery No Service call charge if repair is done! 36547 Goddard Rd. Romulus, MI 48174 734-229-0702 Check us out at: applianceoutletstores.com

Auto Salvage

A-1 Auto Salvage & Scrap

We Buy Scrap Metal & Junk Cars Ferrous & Non-Ferrous Cert. State Truck Scale Pick-up or Drop-off 2574 State Ypsilanti, MI (734) 483-0901

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A-1 Brick Repair

Repairs, tuck point, cement, waterproof. 35 yrs. exp. Licensed / Insured No jobs too small 248-478-7949 248-722-3327

Chimney Repair Masonry

HandyMom & 4 Sons

*Gutter Cleaning *Chimney Repairs *Basement Leaks *Tuck Pointing 734-578-1801

Chimney Repair Masonry

Built, repair, cleaned, Insured, licensed, 45 Years, free estimates, 313 292-7722

Best Chimney & Roofing

Cleaning Service

B.G. CLEANERS

No job too big or small. Long and short term. Reasonable rates. References Proven customer satisfaction. 586-864-7051

Cleaning Service

Handy Clean

JANITORIAL SEVICES Yard Work Snow Removal Window Cleaning Floor Cleaning Light Maint. Work General Cleaning Painting

Serving West. Wayne County Licensed & Insured Call Derrick: 313-550-1977

Construction

HOME OF CRAFT

Additions • Remodeling Kitchens, Baths, Basements Roofing • Siding • Windows Painting • Decks • Flooring Marble Tile • Lic/Insured 734-260-6385

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Motivational Empowerment Counseling Center & Assoc.

Substance abuse counseling and classes. Driver's License assessment. All calls are confidential! 734-721-0900

Flowers/Nursery

Order Your Wreaths and Grave blankets NOW

Garden Fantasy 10501 Haggerty 734-699-7370

Furniture

Plymouth Furniture & Refinishing

• Bedroom Sets • Antiques Cedar Chests • Lamps • Dining Room Sets • End Tables • Armoires • Sofa Tables • Entertainment Units 331 N. Main St., Ply. 734-453-2133

Handyman

Mr. Handyman

On time, Done right

Mr. Handyman America's #1 Handyman Service 734-671-5888

Small to medium size projects and "Honey do items"

Our classifieds really work! Call 734-467-1900 to place your ad today!

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TWO MEN AND A TRUCK

"Movers Who Care."

Boxes, Packaging Supplies and Packaging Services for your Home or Business Move Free Estimates On Time Arrival

734-722-6683 www.twomen.com

Plaster/Drywall

A-1 Plaster & Drywall

Specializing in dust free repairs. Custom Painting. You'll love our work. Call now: 248 478 7949 or 248 722 3327

Roofing

BEST ROOFING AND CHIMNEY

Roofing, Gutters, Tearoffs FREE ESTIMATES LICENSED-INSURED 313-292-7722

Need extra help? Advertise in our classified help wanted section. Call 734-467-1900. TODAY!

Pets & Supplies

Petland

We have the Pets! We Carry Puppies, Kittens, Birds, Fish, Small Animals, plus everything you need to care for them

2087 Rawsonville Rd. Belleville, MI 48111 Exit 187 off of I-94 Next to K-Mart 734-482-8993

www.PetlandBelleville.com

Plumbing

ROOTER, MD

Restoring Your Plumbing's Health 1-800-ROOTER,MD (1-800-766-8376) 31675 W. Eight Mi. Livonia, MI 48152 Drain Cleaning Faucets Sinks/Toilets-Tubs-Shower Heads-Leaks-Disposals-Sump Pumps-Water Line/Pipes Water Heaters- Tankless/Continuous Water Heaters-Sewer Snaking, Jetting & TV Inspection-"No Dig" Sewer Repair

Call Eric at 734-467-1900 to place your Business Directory advertisement.

Veterinarian

AMAZON ANIMAL CLINIC (734) 261-9925

"We Make House Calls" Annual examinations Vaccinations-Declaw X-Rays-In-House Lab We Carry Frontline Revolution FLEA Products & Heart Guard Plus! 28515 Warren Garden City (Just. E. of Middlebelt)

Call Eric at 734-467-1900 to place your Business Directory advertisement.



Only
60 minutes
south of
Detroit

MAUMEE BAY

RESORT AND CONFERENCE CENTER

Operated by **Xanterra** Parks & Resorts® for ODNR

The Great Winter Break "Get-away"
At Maumee Bay Resort

\$95.00* per night on Friday and Saturday

\$75.00* per night Sunday-Thursday

Special Rate expires February 28th, 2007

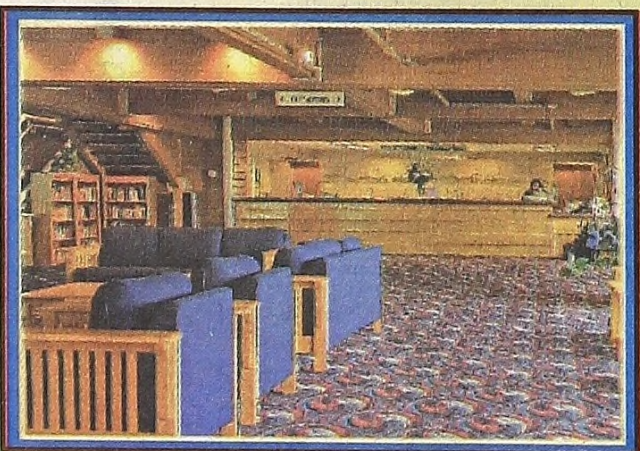
Resort activities include: 18 hole Championship golf course, indoor and outdoor swimming pools, full service dining room, several miles of hiking and biking trails, children's activities, racquet ball, wally ball, game room, fitness center, Beaches, wave runners, canoes, paddle boats, Marina, basketball, tennis, saunas, Jacuzzis, shuffleboard, horseshoes, and so much more.

For reservations call **1-800-at-a-park** (1-800-282-7275)

Maumee Bay Resort is located on Lake Erie just 60 miles from the Detroit area.

maumeebayresort.com

Ohio
So much to Discover!



*Rate does not include tax, subject to availability. Not valid on group reservations or in conjunction with any other discount or special promotion. Only a very limited number of rooms are available each night at this special rate. When available, guest room upgrades for only \$10 per night.